

*[English]***Task Force to Explore New tourist Sites**

694. SHRI CHETAN P. S.
CHAUHAN:

SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
KUMARI DIPIKA CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a task force to suggest the development of new tourist sites;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts made in the recent past to tap the tourism potential of these spots in general and the deserts of Rajasthan in particular?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The India Tourism development corporation have set up a Task force for identifying new areas of tourism potential.

(c) Development of tourism and infrastructure for tourism is primarily the responsibility of state Governments. The Central Government extends financial assistance within the available resources on specific proposals received from State Governments. Such assistance has been made available to the States including Rajasthan.

Protection of Ancient Monuments

695. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several monuments including Taj Mahal are rapidly decaying;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any study into the reasons for the decay;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal to formulate any action plan to protect the ancient monuments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Monuments protected by the archaeological Survey of India including the Taj Mahal are not rapidly decaying.

(b) does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). The Archaeological Survey of India has already formulated an action plan for 1991-92 for the Conservation and preservation of monuments protected by it.

*[Translation]***Cancellation of Vayudoot flight from Delhi to Lucknow**

696. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) how many flights of Vayudoot from Delhi to Lucknow via Kanpur have been cancelled for the last two months and the number of bookings cancelled;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action being taken to ensure regularity of the flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) From 20th September,